

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members, I rise to ask a couple of questions. It's difficult to oppose legislation like this, but as many of you know my background is in personnel and for approximately 12 years I dealt with these kinds of issues as it related to employment and employees' wages. The argument that is made that different people like to receive their paychecks in different form is one that I would concur with. There are people who would like to be paid cash on the job. I even had one fellow that made an argument that since we were on the gold standard he felt he should receive bullion every two weeks. It wouldn't have been much, but it was a great argument and I enjoyed talking with him and then went about depositing his paycheck in the bank. But in any case, Senator Bohlke, if you would just respond to a question for purposes of understanding what, how this operation would work. Senator Bohlke, would, as I read the bill and I know that there are a couple of amendments in the form of committee amendments that we have adopted and those don't affect my question. When it says wages paid to an employee "shall" be sent to the employee by mail or be paid at the employee's normal place of employment during normal employment hours or a place and hour mutually agreed upon by the employer and employee. What does that mean when you say, and the reason for this, I just want to make it perfectly clear that when you say that they are going to be paid at the employee's normal place of business or mailed to the employee, are we talking specifically about a draft that is negotiable? In other words, could I make the argument that I paid you your wages, I gave you a receipt that showed that they were deposited in the account, or are we talking about when you say paid, are we talking about a check that is negotiable?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Hall, we're talking about a check.

SENATOR HALL: So in other words, we want to make that clear that this is tangible that we can take out and exchange or have cash for monies. What about in the last line it says, wages may be deposited by the employer directly into the employee's account at the employee's designated financial institution if voluntarily authorized in writing by the employee. That means that if, you currently, under the system, where the deposit is being made directly into an account, the employers that are out there now after the passage of this bill, that if they want to continue that process they would have to have their employees sign off on forms that would allow them to continue to do that process. Is that not correct?